

1A1 with a continuous band of transverse reinforcing ribs and sealing blocks. The sleeve is folded with a rectangular cross section having a pair of side walls connecting said frontal faces, each of said side walls having at least one pair of longitudinal gussets. The folded sleeve is then provided with angular cuts extending downward and inward from the intersection of said frontal faces and said side faces with the top of said transverse band and the triangle thus formed is removed below the opposite side faces. The adjacent cut edges of said transverse band and the gussets of said side faces are sealed together so that when the sleeve is opened, the gussets in each of said side faces distends laterally from the frontal faces and a closed flat bottom, including the distendable gussets is then formed—.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please replace claims 1-8 with the following claim:

A2 9. A plastic shopping bag comprising a tubular sleeve having a longitudinal axis, an open top and unitarily formed at its bottom edge with a continuous band of transverse reinforcing ribs and sealing blocks, said sleeve being folded with a rectangular cross section having a pair of side walls connecting ^{n.a.} said frontal faces each of said side walls having at least one pair of longitudinal gussets, said folded sleeve being provided with angular cuts extending downward and inward from ^{n.a.} the intersection of said frontal faces and said side faces with ^{n.d.} the top of said transverse band to remove ^{n.a.} the triangle thus formed below ^{n.a.} the opposite side faces, ^{n.a.} the adjacent cut edges of said transverse band and said gussets of said side faces being sealed together to form a rectangular bottom wall and when said sleeve is opened and the gussets in each of ^{n.d.} said side